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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 10/649,355 | 08/26/2003 | Florence Eschbach | 10559-865001 / Intel P173 | 4179 |
| 20985 | 7590 | 03/03/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| FISH & RICHARDSON, PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022 | | | HU, HENRY S | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1713 | |
| DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006 | | | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/649,355

Applicant(s)

ESCHBACH ET AL.

Examiner

Henry S. Hu

Art Unit

1713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on IDS of September 25, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. It is noted that USPTO has received an **IDS** and an **Oath & Declaration** filed on September 25, 2003 and December 8, 2003 respectively. The examiner **accepts Applicants' drawing in six sheets with eleven figures** filed on August 26, 2003 with this application. **Claims 1-32** with a total of three independent claims (Claim 1, Claim 18 and Claim 20) are pending now. An action follows.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
- I. **Claims 1-17**, drawn to **a general process** of mounting a pellicle in between two frames and a reticle, classified in class 430, subclass 5.
 - II. **Claims 18-19**, drawn to **a different process** of mounting a pellicle to a frame with specific steps including clamping, melting and stretching, classified in class 430, subclass 311.
 - III. **Claims 20-32**, drawn to **an apparatus** comprising a pellicle's edge being clamped in between two frames, classified in class 428, subclass 14.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the others because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case invention Group I was drawn to a general process (two steps) of mounting a pellicle in between two frames and a reticle, while Group II was drawn to a different process (three steps) of mounting a pellicle to a frame with specific steps including clamping, melting and stretching, therefore the scope of the claims, i.e., the metes and boundaries are distinct.

4. Although both inventions may contain the same fundamental step(s) as well as the same materials including pellicle and/or frame, **they are actually producing two different mounting articles** due to the presence or absence of other process steps or additive components. In addition to the fundamental steps, it is noted that **Group II requires having substep(s) for melting and stretching**. With such a sophisticated process, **the resulted mounting articles obtained from Group II will behave at least somewhat different from that of Group I**. The process of mounting is unique and thereby not interchangeable.

5. **Invention III** relates to an apparatus comprising a pellicle's edge being mounted and/or clamped in between two frames, while each of **inventions II and I** is related to a mounting process or a mounting methodology. It is noted that such an apparatus from Invention III may include other components and may be NOT obtained from process of Invention I or Invention II.

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Three independent claims (Claim **1**, Claim **18** and Claim **20** marked with underline) are now pending.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for each group is not required for other groups have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7: It is noted that no phone call was made to **Scott C. Harris (tel: 858 678-5070)** by the examiner due to the complexity on this particular case. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

8. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion

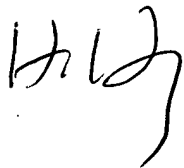
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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Dr. Henry S. Hu** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1103**. The examiner can be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM –5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(571) 273-8300** for all regular communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Henry S. Hu



Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1713, USPTO

February 28, 2006



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